

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 ARA-06

AID-05 IGA-02 BIB-01 /121 W

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R 270839Z MAY 77

FM USLO PEKING

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7886

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1078

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CH UR

SUBJ: SOVIET WALKOUT HIGHLIGHTS PRC'S ANTI-SOVIET LINE ON ZAIRE

1. SUMMARY. PRC FOREIGN MINISTER'S DENUNCIATION OF MOSCOW'S INVOLVEMENT IN ZAIRE INSURGENCY, PROVOKING SOVIET BLOC WALKOUT, IS MOST RECENT MOVE IN PEKING'S CONTINUING CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT SOVIETS IN AFRICA. SINGLEMINDEDNESS OF PRC'S ANTI-SOVIET PROPAGANDA HAS EVEN LED TO PUBLIC APPROVAL OF ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY FRENCH, AS WELL AS BY AFRICAN COUNTRIES, TO MOBUTU'S COUNTER-INSURGENCY EFFORT. END SUMMARY

2. WALKOUT BY SOVIET AND EASTERN EUROPEAN AMBASSADORS DURING FOREIGN MINISTER HUANG HUA'S SPEECH AT MAY 25
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"AFRICAN LIBERATION DAY" RECEPTION IS ONLY LATEST EPISODE IN CONTINUING STIDENT CAMPAIGN BY PRC TO DISCREDIT SOVIET AFRICAN POLICY. WALKOUT BY SOVIET, POLISH, EAST GERMAN, CZECH, HUNGARIAN, BULGARIAN, MONGOLIAN AND CUBAN (BUT NOT ROMANIAN) DIPLOMATS CAME WHEN HUANG CHARACTERIZED "THE RECENT INTRUSION OF FOREIGN MERCENARIES INTO ZAIRE" AS "A FRESH CRIME

COMMITTED SINGLE-HANDEDLY BY A SUPERPOWER AGAINST
A SOVEREIGN AFRICAN STATE AND ITS PEOPLE."

3. HUANG'S SPEECH ADDED NOTHING NEW TO CHARGES
CHINESE HAVE BEEN BROADCASTING EVER SINCE MARCH
INVASION OF SHABA (AND WHICH MAY HAVE HELPED
PRECIPITATE SOVIET PROTEST NOTE LAST WEEK). IN A
SERIES OF COMMENTARIES BY NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY
CORRESPONDENTS OVER PAST SIX WEEKS, CHINESE HAVE
ACCUSED MOSCOW OF VIRTUALLY FORCING CUBANS INTO
"MERCENARY" ACTIVITIES AS PAYMENT FOR SOVIET AID TO
HAVANA, WITH PURPOSE OF SPLITTING AFRICA, GAINING
BASES, AND OUTFLANKING EUROPE. PEKING HAS CALLED
FOR AFRICANS TO UNITE TO KEEP OUT THE "NEW TSARS",
AND HAS POINTEDLY PRAISED AS EXAMPLE OF THIRD
WORLD SOLIDARITY THE DISPATCH OF MOROCCAN TROOPS
AND EGYPTIAN PILOTS TO HELP ZAIRE REPULSE THE INSURGENTS.

4. IN MOST RECENT NCNA COMMENTARY MAY 24, CHINESE
HAILED ZAIRE'S "DECISIVE VICTORY OVER THE SOVIET-
PAID MERCENARIES." IN ADDITION TO REFERRING ONCE
AGAIN TO SUPPORT RENDERED BY VARIOUS AFRICAN COUNTRIES,
PEKING CITED WITH APPROVAL MILITARY AND LOGISTICAL AID
SUPPLIED BY FRANCE AND OTHER WEST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES.
ACCORDING TO NCNA, "THIS REFLECTS A NEW TREND OF UNITED
ANTI-HEGEMONIST STRUGGLE WAGED BY AFRICAN AND WEST
EUROPEAN COUNTRIES."

5. COMMENT: MAY 24 COMMENTARY IS FIRST TIME TO OUR
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KNOWLEDGE THAT CHINESE HAVE PUBLICLY GIVEN SUCH
EXPLICIT SUPPORT TO WESTERN MILITARY AID TO ANTI-
SOVIET AFRICAN STATES. TRADITIONALLY CHINESE HAVE
CALLED FOR SELF-RELIANCE OR THIRD WORLD SOLIDARITY,
WHILE ASSOCIATING THEMSELVES WITH ANTI-COLONIALIST,
ANTI-IMPERIALIST RHETORIC OF MORE RADICAL AFRICAN
STATES. COMMENTARY IS CONSISTENT, HOWEVER, WITH
RECENT PEKING LINE THAT SOVIET AFRICAN MANEUVERS
HAVE ENCIRCLEMENT OF EUROPE AS ONE OF THEIR AIMS.
LOGIC OF CHINESE POSITION ON ANGOLA AND ZAIRE
CONFLICTS HAS ALREADY PUSHED PRC INTO DE FACTO
ALIGNMENT WITH MODERATE AFRICAN STATES ON THESE
ISSUES, AND CHINESE MAY FEEL THEY MIGHT AS WELL
MAKE BEST OF IT BY PUBLICLY APPROVING CLOSE TIES
MANY OF THESE STATES MAINTAIN WITH THEIR FORMER
METROPOLES.
DEAN

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